IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9-14, 16, 18 and 19 as indicated below. The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A control method for a home office system [[which]] that includes user terminal devices [[and]] each of which includes a display device ~~connected to the user terminal devices~~, said method comprising:

a virtual spaces providing step, of providing a virtual [[spaces]] space on a display device for [[users]] each user of the user terminal devices;

~~a view providing step, of providing a different view for each of the virtual spaces on the display device;~~

a monitoring step, of monitoring [[the]] a physical condition of a user ~~while the user is in a certain virtual space~~; and

a control step, of automatically changing [[the]] on each display device a display of ~~the certain~~ a virtual space of the user to a display of a virtual space for rest ~~in response when the user is determined in said monitoring step to have been in a predetermined condition for more than a predetermined time~~ when it is determined that the user should take a rest, based on a result in said monitoring step, so that the user ~~in the changed virtual space for rest can~~ may informally communicate with other users ~~existing~~ present in [[the]] a common virtual space for rest.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (currently amended): A computer-readable storage medium [[for]] storing a program for a home office system ~~which includes~~ that comprises user terminal devices [[and]] each of which includes a display device ~~connected to the user terminal devices, said,~~ the program comprising:

code for a virtual spaces providing step, of providing a virtual spaces space on a display device for [[users]] each user of the user terminal devices;

~~code for a view providing step, of providing a different view for each of the virtual spaces on the display device;~~

code for a monitoring step, of monitoring [[the]] a physical condition of a user ~~while the user is in a certain virtual space~~; and

code for a control step, of automatically changing [[the]] on each display device a display of ~~the certain~~ a virtual space of the user to a display of a virtual space for rest ~~in response when the user is determined in said monitoring step to have been in a predetermined condition for more than a predetermined time~~ when it is determined that the user should take a rest, based on a result in the monitoring step, so that the user ~~in the changed virtual space for rest can~~ may informally communicate with other users ~~existing~~ present in [[the]] a common virtual space for rest.

Claim 4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (currently amended): A control apparatus for a virtual system, which [[has]] includes plural user terminal devices and a host server device connected to the plural user terminal devices through a communication network, and which creates a virtual ~~spaces~~ space on a display device of each of the plural user terminal devices, said control apparatus comprising:

a virtual space providing unit arranged to provide [[the]] a virtual ~~spaces~~ space on a display device for ~~users~~ each user of the plural user terminal devices;

~~a view providing unit arranged to provide a different view for each of the virtual spaces on a display device of the host server device;~~

a monitoring unit arranged to monitor [[the]] a physical condition of a user ~~while the user is in a certain virtual space~~; and

a control unit arranged to automatically change [[the]] on each display device a display of ~~the certain~~ a virtual space of the user to [[the]] a display of another virtual space ~~in response when the user is determined by said monitoring unit to have been in a predetermined condition for more than a predetermined time~~ when it is determined that the user should take a rest, based on a result of said monitoring unit, ~~so that~~ wherein the user moves on at least one of the virtual spaces.

Claim 6 (currently amended): An apparatus according to Claim 5, further comprising an imaging unit arranged to image the user, wherein said monitoring unit monitors [[the]] a state of the user based on ~~the basis of~~ an image of the user outputted from said imaging unit.

Claim 7 (currently amended): An apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein said monitoring unit monitors a face direction of the user, and said control unit moves the user to another virtual space in a case [[where]] in which the user looks toward the user's user terminal device [[with]] a predetermined number of times or for a predetermined time.

Claim 8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (currently amended): An apparatus according to Claim 5, further comprising an imaging unit arranged to image the user, wherein

said imaging unit includes a voice sound information obtaining unit for obtaining voice sound information,

said monitoring unit monitors an emotion of the user based on ~~the basis of~~ the voice sound information obtained by [[said]] the voice sound information obtaining unit, and

said control unit moves the user to another virtual space ~~in case of judging~~ if it is judged that the user is in a [[great]] stress condition, in accordance with [[the]] a recognition result obtained by said monitoring unit.

Claim 10 (currently amended): An apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein the ~~another~~ other virtual space is a space used for taking a cooperative rest.

Claim 11 (currently amended): An apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein

the user's user terminal device [[has]] includes a transmission unit ~~for transmitting~~ arranged to transmit information of the user to the host server device, and

said monitoring unit, which is provided in the host server device, monitors a state of the user based on ~~the basis of~~ the information transmitted from the user's user terminal device.

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Claim 12 (currently amended): A control method of a virtual system, which [[has]] includes plural user terminal devices and a host server device connected to the plural user terminal devices through a communication network, and which creates a virtual ~~spaces~~ space on a display device of each of the plural user terminal devices, said method comprising:

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a virtual space providing step, of providing a virtual ~~spaces~~ space on a display device for ~~users~~ each user of the plural user terminal devices;

~~a view providing step, of providing a different view for each of the virtual spaces on a display device of the host server device;~~

a monitoring step, of monitoring [[the]] a physical condition of a user ~~while the user is in a certain virtual step~~; and

a control step of automatically changing [[the]] on each display device a display of ~~the certain~~ a virtual space of the user to [[the]] a display of another virtual space ~~in response when the user is determined in said monitoring step to have been in a predetermined condition for more than a predetermined time~~ when it is determined that the user should take a rest, based on a result in said monitoring step, so that the user moves [[on]] among the virtual

spaces.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A method according to Claim 12, further comprising an image step, of imaging the user, wherein said monitoring step includes monitoring [[the]] a state of the user based on ~~the basis of~~ an image obtained in said image step.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A method according to Claim 13, wherein said monitoring step includes monitoring a face direction of the user, and said control step moves the user to another virtual space in a case [[where]] in which the user looks toward the user's user terminal device [[with]] a predetermined number of times or for a predetermined time.

Claim 15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (currently amended): A method according to Claim 12, further comprising an image step, of imaging the user, wherein

said image step includes a voice sound information obtaining step, of obtaining voice sound information,

said monitoring step includes monitoring an emotion of the user based on the ~~basis of the~~ voice sound information obtained in [[said]] the voice sound information obtaining step, and

said control step includes moving a current virtual space of the user to another

virtual space ~~in case of judging~~ if it is judged that the user is in a [[great]] stress condition, in accordance with [[the]] a recognition result obtained in said monitoring step.

Claim 17 (previously presented): A method according to Claim 14, wherein the other virtual space is a space used for taking a cooperative rest.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A computer-readable storage medium storing a program for a virtual system, which [[has]] includes plural user terminal devices and a host server device connected to the plural user terminal devices through a communication network, and which creates a virtual ~~spaces, said~~ space on a display device of each of the plural user terminal devices, the program comprising:

code for a virtual space providing step, of providing a virtual ~~spaces~~ space on a display device for ~~users~~ each user of the plural user terminal devices;

~~code for a view providing step, of providing a different view for each of the virtual spaces on a display device of the host server device;~~

code for a monitoring step, of monitoring [[the]] a physical condition of a user ~~while the user is in a certain virtual step~~; and

code for a control step of automatically changing [[the]] on each display device a display of ~~the certain~~ a virtual space of the user to [[the]] a display of another virtual space ~~in response when the user is determined in said monitoring step to have been in a predetermined condition for more than a predetermined time~~ when it is determined that the user should take a

rest, based on a result in the monitoring step, so that the user moves [[on]] among the virtual spaces.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A method according to Claim 13, wherein the user's user terminal device [[has]] includes a transmission unit ~~for transmitting~~ arranged to transmit information of the user to the host server device, and said monitoring step ~~monitors~~ includes monitoring a state of the user based on ~~the basis of~~ the information transmitted from the user's user terminal device.